

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 070511
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TO NONALIGNED MOVEMENT COLLECTIVE

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 070511

FOL RPT ADDIS ABABA 1818 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BEIRUT
ISLAMABAD MUSCAT TEHRAN TEL AVIV DATED 28 MAR 77

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 1818

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO NONALIGNED MOVEMENT COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR XF XA OAU

SUBJ: ASSESSMENT OF AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT

REFS: A) STATE 064904, B) STATE 046135

SUMMARY: DISCUSSIONS WITH OAU OFFICERS IN ADDIS INDICATE
OAU SECRETARIAT WELL PLEASED WITH OUTCOME OF AFRO-
ARAB SUMMIT. COMMENTS FROM OAU GENERALLY IN ACCORD WITH
EMBASSY CAIRO'S ASSESSMENT (REFTEL A), BUT HAVE
EXPECTED AFRICAN SLANT. END SUMMARY.

1. TANZANIAN RESOLUTION: OAU OFFICIALS INDICATED AFRICAN
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CONSENSUS EXISTED TO KILL TANZANIAN RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD
HAVE ESTABLISHED SET FORMULAS FOR DISPENSING ARAB AID TO
AFRICA. AFRICANS WISHED TO AVOID IMPRESSION OF BEGGING
ARABS FOR ASSISTANCE, AND AFRICANS FELT TANZANIAN
RESOLUTION DOWNGRADED AFRICA. AFRICANS THUS OPENLY
AND FRANKLY EMPHASIZED AFRICA'S RICH UNEXPLOITED
ECONOMIC POTENTIAL AND LACK OF ARAB INVESTMENT IN

AFRICA. AFTER DEBATE ON FLOOR, ARABS PROVIDED REVISED PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITHIN SIX HOURS WHICH WAS READILY ACCEPTED. TIMING APPEARS TO INDICATE ARABS WELL PREPARED AND AFRICANS READY TO ACCEPT. TANZANIAN PROPOSAL, WHICH HAD NOT HAD APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE OF 24, DOOMED TO FAILURE BECAUSE OF (A) LACK OF PRIOR APPROVAL, (B) DESIRE FOR PRESERVING AFRO-ARAB UNITY, (C) CAREFUL PREPARATION AND ARGUMENTS BY ARABS AND, (D) AFRICAN PRIDE.

2. ARAB ASSISTANCE: ARABS, THROUGH ASSISTANCE PLEDGES, HAVE NO DOUBT ASSURED AFRICAN SUPPORT FOR NEAR FUTURE: LONG-TERM WILL DEPEND ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PROMISED ASSISTANCE. AFRICANS GOT MORE THEN THEY EXPECTED AND LESS THAN ASKED. OAU STAFF, OF COURSE, INTERESTED IN HAVING SOME OF ARAB LARGESSE FUNNELED THROUGH OAU. TRADITIONAL RIVALRY WILL NO DOUBT CONTINUE BETWEEN OAU AND ECA ON WFRICAN ECONOMIC MATTERS, AND, IN THIS CASE, BOTH WILL BE SEEKING TO HAVE FUNDS CHanneled THROUGH THEIR ORGANIZATION.

3. ETHIOPIAN RESOLUTIONS: ETHIOPIAN RESOLUTION FOR CONDEMNATION OF SEPARATIST MOVEMENTS WAS REFERRED BACK TO DRAFTING COMMITTEE. IT WAS OPPOSED WITHIN COMMITTEE BY LIBERIANS AND NIGERIANS AMONG OTHERS AND EFFECTIVELY KILLED. OAU STAFFER STATED AFRICANS HAD MORE OBJECTIONS TO AMENDMENT THAN ARABS. WITH RESPECT TO OIL EMBARGO AMENDMENT, STAFFERS INDICATED THAT ETHIOPIANS HAD NOT DONE THEIR HOMEWORK AND THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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ARABS QUICKLY COUNTERED WITH CONVINCING ARGUMENTS, INCLUDING EXISTING ARAB EMBARGO. ETHIOPIANS NO DOUBT INTENDED MEASURE TO EMBARRASS MODERATE ARAB STATES AND AMENDMENT SHOULD BZ VIEWED IN LIGHT OF PRESENT ETHIOPIAN CAMPAIGN TO VILIFY MODERATE ARABS.

4. AGGEEMENT APPARENTLY REACHED TO HOLD AFRO-ARAB MINISTERIAL IN 18 MONTHS AND TO RECONVENE SUMMIT IN THREE YEARS.

5. COMMENT: SUMMIT SEEN AS VICTORY FOR AFRICAN AND ARAB MODERATES, SADAT AND OAU. ABILITY TO SIDETRACK CONTENTIOUS ISSUED WAS RESULT OF SOUND DIPLOMATIC STRATEGY, PARTICULARLY BY ARAB STATES, AND GENERAL DESIRE TO PRESERVE AFRO-ARAB UNITY AND MAKE CONFERENCE A SUCCESS. NOT ALL AFRICANS WERE OVERJOYED WITH OUTCOME, HOWEVER. KNOWLEDGEABLE TANZANIAN AMBASSADOR RUPIA TOLD CHARGE INABILITY CERTAIN AFRICANS SUCH AS NIGERIANS AND ETHIOPIANS TO INTRODUCE SUBJECTS OF

CONCERN TO AFRICA WAS DISQUIETING TO SOME AFRICANS,
INCLUDING HIMSELF. HE MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO
ETHIOPIA'S EFFORT TO RAISE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY
MATTER AND SAID HE FEARED THAT SUCCESSFUL ARAB EFFORTS
AIDED BY SOME AFRICANS TO SWEEP SUBJECT UNDER RUG IN
NAME OF UNITY WOULD ONE DAY COME BACK TO HAUNT
AFRICANS. THIS FAILURE OF AFRICANS TO SPEAK OUT
MIGHT ONE DAY MEAN THAT AFRICANS, WHATEVER THEIR
SUPPORT FOR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, WOULD FIND THEM-
SELVES FACED WITH A FAIT ACCOMPLI, AT WHICH TIME IT
WOULD BE TOO LATE TO ACT. TIENKEN UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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